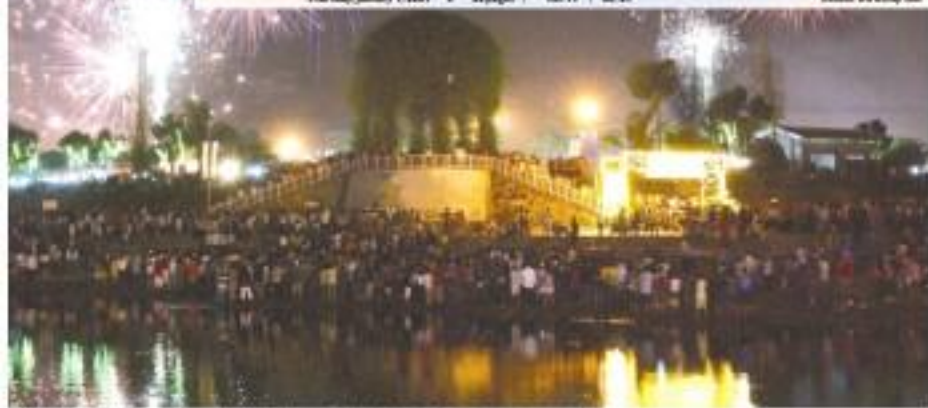


# PHILIPPINE DAILY INQUIRER

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CELEBRATION for the New Year as up in a spectacle of light by the banks of the Marikina River in a province of the country of a new beginning.

## Loren is FPJ's leading lady

### Full Senate slate announced today

By Michael Lim/Staff

THE ACTRESS, finally, has chosen his leading lady. Presidential candidate Benigno Aquino III, speaking through Senate Minority Leader Vicente Sotto III, said the business community that Senate Majority Leader Loren Legarda would be his running mate in the May 10 elections.

"I have been authoritative FPJ to make the announcement today," Sotto said, as he confirmed that Legarda was the unanimous choice of the opposition coalition, the Bagong Pilipinas.

"The announcement came more than a week after opposition Sen. Aquino Plament II described her candidacy as a 'super phone'."

"This is indeed signal No. 1," Sotto said.

Reached for comment, Legarda simply said, "I am deeply honored."

She noted that political analysts had based on FPJ Legarda's run-up "to unbeatable numbers."

She told the Inquirer that

campaign both of which would be sought in the past. "What is the purpose of the service? We need leaders who will put the national interest above personal interest and who will not be swayed by the media."

Once elected vice president, she said, she would be a leader who would be "hands-on, firm, but compassionate."

Legarda, who rose to fame as a news anchor and TV host on the ABS-CBN network, said her previous political experience included a stint as a poverty alleviation officer through support of private business, and her love for, in

terms of



A KID IS PART 2 KID: Benigno Aquino III and Loren Legarda will have to face the challenge of the Philippine New Year's Eve celebration (photo by Inquirer).

### Comeback kid: Only in Lakas ticket

By Carlos Padilla

KEEPING the ghosts of Edsa II from haunting his run, former Defense Secretary Orlando Mercado will make another comeback bid for a Senate seat in May. He will use the colors of President Marcos' Lakas.

"It's time for the nation to move forward and leave behind the time of whether we go to prison or not," said Mercado, who in January 2000, joined the campaign led by Atty. General Edsa II of Lakas to support President Joseph Estrada. Their decision turned Mercado to leave Lakas and led to the Marcos family's exit.

Mercado, who worked during the campaign, said, "I will again see the face of Edsa II but I believe that our people have been so enlightened that the danger of one Edsa II."

PHOTOGRAPH BY



KIDS 1001 GOOD-BYE: Welcome to the New Year of the Monkey which will be celebrated in the Chinese New Year next month. Benigno Aquino III and Loren Legarda will have to face the challenge of the Philippine New Year's Eve celebration (photo by Inquirer).

### Roco asked: Who he? Why him?

By Carlos Padilla

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By Carlos Padilla

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### Headlines that touched Filipinos in US in 2003

By Carlos Padilla

By Carlos Padilla

By Carlos Padilla

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benefits and women's health rights. The Philippine, which had been invited to fight the war against the Taliban in the Philippines, had been promised that same health and women's benefits as American soldiers at the war. The well-known Filipino community, saying strong and before the Pacific War ended, President Bush signed the American law of 2000 that required on that promise.

In the last 10 years, the US Congress moved slowly to recognize the benefits made by the Philippine World War II veterans. Only in 1999, for instance, did it allow Filipino veterans living in the United States to receive benefits.

At the last Inquirer Times newspaper information about the passage of the PRA, many health benefits had been lost. And now, it

### Noli authored 2 bills in 30 months

By Carlos Padilla

While Sen. Noli de Vela has not done anything great in the past, he has authored two bills in 30 months. The bills are the Philippine Nationality Law and the Philippine Nationality Law.

Supporters of Sen. Noli "Noli" de Vela said that the bills are the best thing that he has done in his career.



IN LIKE BANQUET: NOLI DE VELA'S 21ST BIRTHDAY



# Comelec fails to resolve LDP split over top bet

By Marlon P. Manila

THE COMMISSION on Elections yesterday failed to resolve the split to the appointment of its chair, saying that it will refer the matter to the Supreme Court.

The Commission said it will refer the matter to the Supreme Court if it cannot resolve the split by January 15.

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## Reds predict GMA defeat in May polls

By Norman Borlongan

THE COMRADE Party of the Philippines expects President Gloria Macapagal-Arroyo to be re-elected by her opponents in the May 2008 elections and widespread protest to arise if she is declared the winner of the presidential polls.

The broad masses of the people consider Ms. Macapagal-Arroyo for declining on Dec. 29, 2007 election would not run for president and then going back on her word after a few months," said CPP central committee chair Atty. Gen. Lito Lantion.

Lantion said there is widespread expectation that the President cannot win the election unless she engages in her long and unbroken record of corruption and nepotism.

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Jose M. Sison

"However would come out second to last, however low, God has an answer for those who do this. It is a broad united front can easily arise to hold her accountable for stealing the election," Lantion said.

In the same document, the CPP stated credit for the broad alliance of people's organizations that was vital to the success of People Power I and People Power II that toppled former President Corason Aquino and Ms. Macapagal-Arroyo.

"These are some progressive parties and organizations that are active in levels lower than the presidency and the Senate. These are the most powerful revolutionary parties and organizations and the organizations among the revolutionary parties and organizations," Lantion said.

Lantion expressed optimism that progressive candidates "will win a majority number of seats in Congress before the inauguration and the local governments even spend efforts to cut off their chains."

"As a matter of revolutionary principles, the Party does not believe that electoral struggle is the main solution for the liberation and social liberation of the people," he said.

But Lantion said the CPP considers the appropriate of political parties and candidates within the framework of the united front.



LAMP BORN'S 40TH

Comrade Lagarda, chair of the Global Executive Committee of Balok & Macdonald, an international law firm, is with (left) the former Philippine International Airport by former President Corason Aquino and (right) the former Philippine International Airport by former President Corason Aquino.

## Bomb explodes near Jolo Army camp, killing civilian

MANILA, Jan. 1 (AP) — A powerful homemade bomb exploded near a military camp on the island of Jolo yesterday, killing a civilian and injuring several others.

The bomb had been planted on a roadside near the Army's 1st Infantry Division on the island of Jolo. It exploded when a jeepney drove past it, and 11 soldiers were injured.

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An investigation was underway to determine if the victim was an innocent civilian or a rebel attempting to plant the explosive, according to a telephone interview.

He said the bomb attack, the second in a week, may have been in retaliation for the capture earlier this month of Abu Sayyaf commander Chalky Isidro in Jolo.

Isidro, who sustained gunshot wounds, is being treated in a military hospital in Manila. Two homemade bombs were found near Isidro's report on Friday. One exploded as soldiers attempted to defuse it, killing one and injuring another. The military also reported that two separatist guerrillas planted these bombs.

Troops, backed by US military logistical assistance, have been waging operations against the ragtag Muslim guerrillas, believed to number several hundred. The rebels rose to international prominence when they sailed to neighboring Malaysia in 2000 and kidnapped 21 people, including 10 Americans.

They brought the hostages to their jungle camps in Jolo and eventually released them after payments of huge ransoms totaling \$1.5 million.

APR 14





# Headlines that touched Filipinos in US

Special page 40

last, the Filipino veterans are getting their red, white and blue veterans cards, or honor books delivered.

California judge denies extradition of Roger Linares (think to the Philippines).

In November a federal judge in Sacramento denied a request by the Philippine government to send Linares, the husband of slain activist Julia Blanca, back to Manila to stand trial for the murder of his wife.

The action by US Magistrate Gregory Haines seemed an upside to the Philippines and among California's one-million strong Filipino community.

Haines ruled that the Philippine government did not provide enough evidence to justify the return of the 61-year-old man. The Philippine government is considering filing a new request for Linares's extradition.

Underdog Manny Pacquiao defeats David Tua for world featherweight title in the world.

Displaying the aplomb of an experienced professional fighter, Manny Pacquiao captured the WBC's World Junior Featherweight title in a close featherweight championship match at the Alamodome in San Antonio, Texas.

Pacquiao became boxing's latest star after the November fight. He won unanimous 11 million in prize money.

Pacquiao's fans took the brands out of Filipino-Americans who were, unusually, the focus, glued to their television sets on a Saturday night.

## 1st Filipino bishop

Newspaper becomes first Filipino bishop in Los Angeles.

Donato Antonio Sefla, a 58-year-old Filipino-born priest, was appointed by the Vatican in early December as the first Filipino-American Catholic bishop in America. Sefla was born in San Juan, Nueva Vizcaya and once served as parish priest of Calicut, Cebu.

Cardinal a pastor of the St. Joseph Cathedral in Thibodaux, Louisiana, Sefla will be helping oversee the installation of Los Angeles, California, after retirement.

As bishop of the Tender Care of Los Angeles, Sefla will assist Cardinal Roger Mahony administer the second largest Catholic archdiocese in the US with five million members, including several thousand Filipinos.

The appointment of Sefla was welcome news in Filipino-American Catholic in North America who are among those who would bring about a number of annual celebration changes brought against a number of Philippine-born priests in California.

## Papa pleads guilty

His Filipino friends plead guilty to corruption in education.

In January, Peter Fajardo, a Congressman who served for four years as mayor of the Los Angeles suburb of Carson City, agreed to plead guilty to corruption charges in exchange for a more lenient sentence.

Fajardo was alleged to have requested more than \$100,000 in bribes to exchange the same while he was a member of the city council in Carson City.

Fajardo's plea bargain ended a promising public service career.

## Honors

Filipino soldiers killed, another found alive in Iraq.

"They found my Joseph?" exclaimed 1st Army soldier Joseph Madrona's mother when her son was found safe in late March after being held as a prisoner of war in Iraq.

Madrona was one of seven among US soldiers who were found near Tikrit in late March. Three weeks after their capture, Madrona, whose mother Andrea was born to the Philippines, hailed from Alabang, New Mexico.

While Madrona was fortunate to return safely, two other Filipino-Americans—Sergeants Joseph Medina and Mike Hernandez—were killed in action in Iraq.

Medina, a 33-year-old Marine gunner sergeant, emigrated from the Philippines with his mother when he was 13 years old. He died in a firefight with the other US soldiers in the town of Haditha in southern Iraq, a day after completing Madrona's tour.

Urbano, 22, who was born in Chicago City was killed by an Iraqi suicide bomber in April.

He was the first to be elected to the local City Council.

Filipino-Americans in Seattle, Washington, helped elect one of their own to the city council of the Pacific Northwest's largest city.

David Jella, the son of an American immigrant from Santa Maria, Bataan, has defeated incumbent Paul Miller by more 5,000 votes in elections to November. He became the only Filipino-American to serve on a big city council members on the US mainland.

It is not that it may challenge California's more numerous Filipino-American community which has put its own one of their own to the Golden State's residents of greater California has about one million Filipino-Americans, while Washington state only has about 60,000.

President Binayagan's former mayor came to Washington.

President Binayagan's former mayor came to Washington in May, becoming only the third chief of state to do so since George W. Bush assumed office.

For being a staunch Bush ally in the US fight against terrorism, the President literally brought home the honor in the form of a personal military pension from Washington. His friendship with the US President may well have influenced Bush to sign the US law relieving health benefits left late in the year.



CNET The third state visit since US President George W. Bush assumed office, President Binayagan visited as honored guest and welcomed at the White House in the global war against terrorism.



PHOTO: Binayagan, Vice President Arroyo, and US President Bush in the White House. Binayagan is the first Filipino President to visit the US.



PHOTO: The Philippines, Manny Pacquiao is seen to be delivering a right to Mexican Placido Domingo during the world featherweight bout in San Antonio, Texas last November. Pacquiao defeated the champion by a TKO in the 11th round.

AP/WIDE







# SPORTS

Editor: Teddy A. Alonzo  
 Assistant Editor: Edwin M. Villanueva

## Freddie Roach quits as Pacquiao's trainer

By Edwin L. Lapid  
 Contributor

Pacers spoil LeBrone's party A18

**T**HE MAN widely credited for Manny Pacquiao's newfound success and who lobbied so hard so the Filipino fighter won't be knocked financially will no longer be in his corner.

By trainer of the five divisions Freddie Roach announced in an interview previously with boxing website BoxingScene that he is quitting as Manny Pacquiao's trainer following the Filipino's eighth division victory in a bout with Eli open the...

"It's not that I don't like him, it's that he's going to keep on happening and he's going to decide to do something about it. If he could get an agreement involved to look at all of Manny's fights under shared management, you'll find a lot of money waiting," Roach told BoxingScene.com in an interview when asked if he would manage the training business if he continued to allow himself to be called "Freddie."

Roach revealed that Pacquiao had already approached him for help after the Filipino saw that his purse was \$700,000 and not \$200,000 when he signed the contract when the weight in light fly was the highest in the world.

"He asked me if I would be his manager and take care of his business for him and I said yes they don't want to money from him. I said if they, I won't getting paid to do it and I won't asking for anything," Roach said.

He added: "I just wanted to see the kid have a good life and end up wealthy. I don't want to see him broke. With these people making the money that they're making...I mean, they're not just taking a little bit of money, they're taking a big chunk of it."

Roach said Pacquiao should not have agreed to...



Wind Blown: Horse of the Year again

AP/WIDEWORLD

## Wind Blown is No. 1 galloper for 3rd time

A CHAMPION galloper will lead by the Spring Forward and the American Pharoah in the 2004 Kentucky Derby. Wind Blown, the 2003 American Pharoah, was named the 2003 American Pharoah.

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Wind Blown, the 2003 American Pharoah, was named the 2003 American Pharoah.

In 2003, the year he won a long list of victories that included an amazing triumph at the prestigious Presidential Gold Cup, Wind Blown was also the unanimous choice for the horse.

In recognition of another famous year the year Wind Blown just an unbeaten win in under seven days back in 2003, the sportswriting fraternity also bestowed on him the Horse of the Year award in 2003.

The Philippine Racing Commission under Chair Juan C. Dela Cruz will be picking the horse to race for the 2004 American Pharoah.

Under the stewardship of Dela Cruz and commission leader Juan, Dela Cruz and...

AP/WIDEWORLD

Hindi ito basta-basta  
 bibigay, tol!

*Handwritten signature*



Islander  
 Kapatag ng aring, libang ng aring!











































CHOCOLATE CHIP MUFFINS

## Recipe for would-be tycoon

**L**ET'S start the New Year right. With all the questions and recipe requests, in 2004, I promise to answer as many of them as I can.

Stay healthy, happy and decently merry!

### KITCHEN RESCUE



Reggie Aspiras

**Belok** kang magtinda ng ano kono dahil may ice crusher ako.... I ate at Ice Monster pero mayudong pang sul ang prasyo. Eh sa Kalatungang lang ang pwento ko at hindi pa marami carinderia kundi talagang yelo-han lang na may ice crusher. Nalip ko na dagdag sa kita eh may ano kono. Kano I have been a housewife for too long na sila na hindi ako maraming silong ano kono.... please share with me what you know about ano kono. I will just adjust your recipe para salubalin sa mga bata.... Bayan mo at ipangalan ko sa ano kono ala reggie, o di ba?

Mrs. Josie A. Pagado

Hindi po ako eksperto sa snow cone ngunit lathala po ng aking nalalaman, ay babahagi ko sa inyo. Wala na po koi uli akong narahan pa sa buhay kung hindi magkaroon ng snowcone na nakapangalan sa akin.

Good luck at alam ko pong sa darating na taon, Rayo na ang tatatagaling Snow Cone Queen 2004!

Snow cone facts:

- The nice thing about snow cones is that it requires very little to start and make a business out of it.
- Snow cone is just shaved ice and fruit juice.
- Equipment needed: snow cone cups, spoon, syrup dispenser and ice machine
- All snow cones are the same until you put the syrup.
- Remember: make the syrup tasty and colorful.
- Make multi-flavored cones and charge a higher price. In some snow cone stands, they add vodka and rum while others add fresh crushed and chilled fruit.
- Be imaginative in creating flavors.

### Basic Snow Cone Syrup

The syrup will depend on how tart or sweet you want it to be. Add more sugar for sweeter syrup, less water if you want it more intense.

½ c water

½ c sugar

¼ c fruit juice mix, such as Kool Aid or Tang, any flavor or any fruit juice concentrate food coloring as deemed necessary

• Place all ingredients in a large cup or jar

BOOP/Ca

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